

Listing of the Claims:

The Listing of Claims below replaces all previous listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for playing back audio signals recorded on a disc, comprising the acts of:

providing a disc player;

providing a disc;

determining a player channel format of audio signals outputted from a the disc player;

reviewing a the disc to identify content compatible with the player channel format of the disc player; and

prohibiting playback of content incompatible with the player channel format;

skipping content that is recorded in a format that is not compatible with the player channel format;

playing back content that is compatible with the player channel format; and

downmixing skipped content that is recorded in a format that is not compatible with the player channel format into content that is compatible with the player channel format after the act of playing back content that is compatible with the player channel format.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[2]], further comprising the acts of:

reading navigation data recorded on the disc;

extracting groups from the disc; and

identifying groups with content compatible with the player channel format of the disc player; and

wherein playing back content that is compatible with the player channel format
comprises playing back the groups with content compatible with the player channel format of the disc player.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[2]], further comprising the acts of:
reading navigation data recorded on the disc;
extracting audio titles from the disc; and
identifying audio titles compatible with the player channel format of the disc player; and

wherein playing back content that is compatible with the player channel format
comprises playing back the audio titles compatible with the player channel format of the disc player.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[2]], further comprising the acts of:
reading navigation data recorded on the disc;
extracting groups from the content of the disc;
identifying groups that will provide audio signals compatible with the player channel format of the disc player; and
~~playing back the groups that will provide audio signals compatible with the player channel format of the disc player; and~~
repeating playback of the groups in group number sequence;
wherein playing back content that is compatible with the player channel format
comprises playing back the groups that will provide audio signals compatible with the player channel format of the disc player.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the acts of:

providing a second disc; and

playing back content on the second disc after playback of a previous disc is complete.

7. (Original) The method according of claim 1 wherein the content on the disc includes music data.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for playing back audio signals recorded on a disc, comprising the acts of:

providing a disc player;

providing a disc;

detecting a disc player audio output channel type;

retrieving audio manager data from a the disc;

acquiring audio title set information from the disc;

skipping audio title set information for content of the audio title set that is not compatible with the disc player audio output channel type;

placing audio title set information in a table if the content of the audio title set is compatible with the disc player audio output channel type; and

placing skipped audio title set information in the table for content of the audio title set that is not compatible with the disc player audio output channel type but is downmixable to content that is compatible with the disc player audio channel type after the act of placing audio title set information in the table if the content of the audio title set is compatible with the disc payer audio output channel type; and

playing back audio signals corresponding to the audio title set information in the table.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the audio title set information comprises an ATS number, ATSI address and a group number of the first audio title.

10. (Cancelled);

11. (Currently Amended) An audio signal disc playback apparatus for playing back audio signals recorded on a disc, comprising:

a disc player operable to output audio signals from content stored on a disc;

a channel setting section operable to set a channel format of the audio signals outputted from the disc player; and

a playback control section operable to determine whether content is recorded on the disc is in a channel format other than the set channel format, to skip content that is recorded in a channel format that is not compatible with the set channel format, to play back content that is compatible with the set channel format, and to downmix skipped content that is recorded in a format that is not compatible with the set channel format into content that is compatible with the set channel format after playing back content that is compatible with the set channel format, and to prohibit content that is incompatible with the set channel format from being played back.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the playback control section is operable to read navigation data recorded on the disc before the disc is played back in order to extract groups in the content, determine whether the groups satisfy a playback condition, and register the groups that satisfy the playback condition.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:
 - a management section operable to register the groups that satisfy the playback condition; and
 - a playback section operable to play back the groups in group number sequence.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:
 - a management section operable to register the audio titles that satisfy the playback condition are registered and managed; and
 - a playback section operable to play the audio titles.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:
 - a management section operable to register groups that satisfy the playback condition; and
 - a playback section operable to perform a playback repeat operation for repeating the playback of the groups in group number sequence.
18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising:
 - a disc selecting section operable to select a disc from a plurality of discs.
19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein when the content is recorded only in a channel format that is incompatible with the set channel format, the playback control section determines that the content does not satisfy a playback condition, and selects the next disc.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the playback control section reads is operable to navigation data recorded on a disc before the disc is played back in order to extract groups in the content, to determine whether the groups satisfy a playback condition, and register the groups that satisfies the playback condition.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising:

a management section operable to register groups that satisfy the playback condition; and

a playback section operable to play back the groups in group number sequence, and select and play back a disc from the plurality of discs after the playback of a previous disc is complete.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising:

a management section operable to register audio titles that satisfy the playback condition; and

a playback section operable to for play back the audio titles, and select and play back a disc from the plurality of discs after the playback of a previous disc is complete.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the content on the disc includes music data.